SRI MALLIKARJUNA KHARGE.—Most of the poor students appear for examinations in the month of April and March. They have to give their fees in the month of November and December. Why was there so much delay to issue the Government Order

SRI B. SUBBAIAH SHETTY —The delay was caused on account of the allotment of funds. In the budget no provision was made and later on allotment was made. Now the Director of Backward Classes and Minorities are dealing with the problem and disbursing the amount.

1-00 P.M.

(*ii*) *re : Alleged Kidnaping of boys from Bailakondagalli, Belgaum to Dharwar*

SRI B. B. SAYANAK.—Sir, I call the attention of the Chief Minister to the case of alleged kidnapping of two minor boys from Bailakondagalli, Belgaum to Dharwar.

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS (Chief Minister).—I wish to make the following statement :

On the midnight of 18th February 1979, one Shri Shivaji Annappa Lohar, aged 40 years, a resident of Bhatkande Galli, Belgaum complained to the Market Police Station, Belgaum, that his two sons, Sanjay aged 6 years and Gajanan aged 4½ years, left the house on 18th February 1979 at about 1900 hours with 30 paise to purchase some eatables from a nearby shop and did not return home, that efforts made to trace them were not fruitful and that at about mid-night, one person by name Shri Fakirappa, aged about 50 years, of Dharwar, came to his house with Sanjay and informed him that Sanjay was found standing on the road side at Dharwar at about 2200 hours that day. Shri Fakirappa casually enquired the whereabouts of Sanjay and on learning the same, he brought him to his father's house at Bhatkande Galli, Belgaum. On the basis of Shri Lohar's complaint, a case in Market Police Station Cr. No. 63/79 has been registered Subsequently, the Police Sub-Inspector took up the investigation. Sanjay could not throw any light to the police immediately, as he was in a frightened mood. However, the boy was allowed to go with his father. The police alerted all the local police stations and instructed the subordinates to make enquires about the missing boy. Shri Fakirappa was also questioned in detail but to no effect.

Next day i.e., 19th February 1979, at 2030 hours, Shri Shivaji Annappa Lohar again came to the Market Police Station and stated

that, while making enquiries with his son Sanjay, he came to know that on 18th February 1979 while Sanjay and his brother Gajanan were at Ganapati Galli, Belgaum on 18th evening, an unknown person approached the boys in a rickshaw and took them away. After travelling some distance in the town, they got down from the rickshaw where a lady was present. Thereafter, the said man and the lady took the boys in a motor car to Dharwar. They dropped the boy in Dharwar town and took away Gajanan in a rickshaw. After sometime, Shri Fakirappa met Sanjay and after enquiry, Shri Fakirappa brought Sanjay to Belgaum.

The police have registered a case in Market Police Station Cr. No. 66/79 under section 363 IPC. The descriptive particulars of the missing boy Gajanan were got published in Newspapers. Besides, pamphlets were also distributed in the limits of bordering Police Stations. Radio messages were sent to all Superintendents of Police in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Goa. Enquiry have been made at Dharwar, Karwar, and Belgaum Districts and even in the surrounding villages. But, so far there has been no clue about the missing boy.

The Investigating Officer is in const nt touch with the parents of the missing boy and the investigation of the case is in progress.

SRI B. B. SAYANAK—These boys had gone to Ganapathi Galli, which is a crowded lane in Belgaum. How is it that they were kidnapped and were taken in a autorickshaw ?

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS—If the hon. member has any other information, let me know about it.

SRI B. B. SAYANAK—It was stated that investigation of the case is in progress. May I know the progress of investigation ?

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS—The progress is searching

SRI B. B. SAYANAK—About 3 months have passed and the boy could not be traced. The parents are very much worried and have approched the Police officers also. I request the Government to try their level best to trace the boy.

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS—I really sympathise with the parents. It is but natural that the parents will be worried. Anyway, I can assure the House that all possible steps will be taken and instructions will be given to the Police to do this searching work more vigorously.